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The Publisher will furnish the name and address of the maker of goods mentioned in this column. In order to avoid the appearance of advortisements, no name will be attached to notices herein.

HINTS AND NOTIONS.

To remove ink stains. Ink stains may be removed from a mahogany table by putting a few drops of spirits of nitre into a teaspoonful of water, and touching the part stained with a feather dipped into the mixture; immediately the ink stain disappears, the place must be rubbed with a rag wet with cold water, or there will be a white mark which will not easily be removed. Ink stains on silver or plated articles may be removed immediately and effectually without doing any injury to the things, by making a little chloride of lime into a paste with water, and rubbing the stains until they disappear and afterwards washing the article with soap and water. Ink stains may be removed from colored table covers by dissolving a teaspoonful of oxalic acid in a teacupful of hot water and rubbing the stained part well with the solution. Ink stains may be taken out of anything white by simply putting a little powdered salts of lemon on the stain, damping it, allowing it to remain about five minutes, and then washing it out with soap and water, when the stain will disappear. Ink may be removed from boards by applying some strong muriatic acid or spirits of salt with a piece of rag and afterwards well washing the place with water.

Wainscot varnish consists of eight pounds of second quality gum anime, three gallons of clarified oil, one quarter pound of litharge, one quarter pound of dried sugar of lead, one quarter pound of copperas, well boiled until it strings very strong, mixed with five and a half gallons of turpentine. This varnish dries quickly, and is principally used for house-painting and japanning. When a darker varnish is required, as for mahogany, a small portion of gold size may be mixed with it.-Amateur Mechanics, London.

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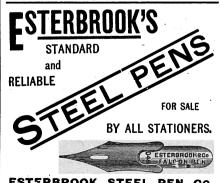
reptiles, Greenaway figures, ctc., etc., and 10 sprays of flowers of various kinds, all for 80 cts., with powder and distributing pad for transfering, to ornament the silk. These patterns can be instantly transferred to any material, and can be used a hundred times over. Our book, "How to Make Home Beautiful," has instructions for making a variety of patchwork, with diagrams and illustrations of many fancy stitches for joining and ornamenting the silk. Also, has instructions for making a variety of patchwork, with diagrams and illustrations of all the Kensington and Arrasene stitches, with instructions for doing this kind of embroidery and for making many beautiful and useful articles. It slso contains a descriptive and illustrated list of nearly 1.00 patterns for various kinds of embroidery. Price 16 cts. All the above, with 0 varieties of silk for 10 in. block, 90 cts., with silk for 12 in. block, \$1.00, with silk for both blocks, \$1.25, all post-paid.

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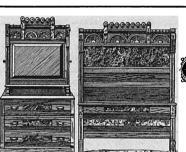
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HINTS AND NOTIONS.

Silver Shield of Scipio Africanus.-In 1656, a fisherman found on the banks of the Rhone, in the neighborhood of Avignon, a large plate or dish, thickly encrusted with hardened mud, which he at first thought to be iron, but which subsequently proved to be of pure silver, perfectly round, more than two feet in diameter, and weighing twenty pounds. This relic, which had been buried in the Rhone for more than two thousand years, was the votive shield presented to Scipio by the inhabitants of Carthago Nova, now the city of Carthagena, for his generosity and self-denial in delivering one of his captives—a beautiful virgin, betrothed to Allucius, a Spanish prince -to her lover. This act so honorable to the Roman general, who was then in the prime vigor of manhood, is represented on the shield which is engraved in the curious and valuable work of M. Spon.

-To make paste for laying cloth or leather. To a pint of the best wheaten flour add resin, very finely powdered, about two large spoonfuls; of alum, one spoonful, in powder; minutem all well together, put them into a pan, and add by degrees soft or rain water, carefully stirring it till it is of the consistence of thinnish cream; put it into a saucepan over a clear fire, keeping it constantly stirred, that it may not get lumpy. When it is of a stiff consistence, so that a spoon will stand upright in it, it is done enough. Be careful to stir it well from the bottom, for it will burn if not well attended to. Empty it out into a pan and cover it over till cold, to keep it free from lumps.

Glass.—Pliny informs us that the art of making glass was accidentally discovered by some merchants who were traveling with nitre, and stopped near a river issuing from Mount Carmel. Not readily finding stones to rest their kettles on, they employed some pieces of their nitre for the purpose. The nitre gradu ally dissolving by the heat of the fire, mixed with the sand, and a transparent matter flowed, which was, in fact, glass. It is certain that we are more indebted to chance than genius for many of the most valuable discoveries.

To dissolve the silver off old plated goods. Mix 1 oz. of finely-powdered saltpetre with 10 oz. sulphuric acid, and steep the goods in this mixture. If diluted with water it acts on copper and other metals, but if very strong it dissolves the silver only, and may be used to dissolve silver off plated goods without affecting the other metals.

A broom holder has been patented, consisting of a rubber jaw-like clamp, with box for holding it, for holding brooms by their handle when not in use.

To clean looking glasses. Sponge down the glass with gum and water, equal parts; then dust down with whitening, and finish with an old soft silk handkerchief.

Indian ink running. If it is for drawing plans you may prevent it running by adding a little sugar to the Indian ink.

Marble mantels are painted to imitate fancy woods.

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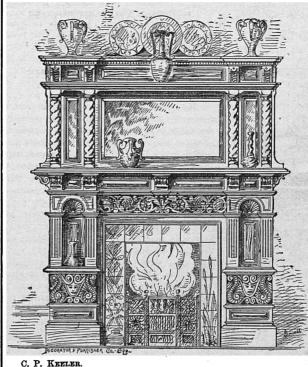
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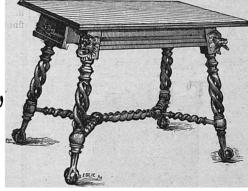
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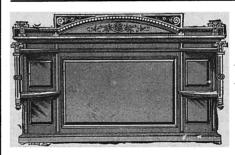
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FIRE SCREENS, &c., &c. Send for Hand-Book by Mail.

HINTS AND NOTIONS.

To clean old marble or alabaster. Immerse the objects for two or three days in water to soften the dirt, lime, etc., then take them out and clean them with a brush or scraper. When cleaned in this way as much as possible, lay them in a mixture of one part of concentrated muriatic acid and three parts of water until they appear perfectly clean. Sometimes it may be necessary to increase the "biting" property of the sour water with nitric acid. Finally, soak the objects in water till they are perfectly free from acid. The appearance may often be improved by rubbing with a little almond oil.

A good black walnut polish is prepared by taking pulverized asphaltum, and put it in a jar or bottle, pour over it about twice its bulk of turpentine or benzol; put in a warm place, and shake occasionally; when dissolved strain and apply it to the wood with a cloth or stiff brush; should it prove too dark, dilute with turpentine or benzol. If desired to bring out the grain more, apply a mixture of boiled oil and turpentine. When the oil is dry, polish the wood with a mixture of 2 parts shellac varnish, boiled oil 1 part; shake well before using. Apply with a cloth, and rub briskly.

Liquid gold for decorating china is prepared by grinding gold leaf with white honey on a porphyry slab until reduced to the finest possible state of division; this is mixed with thick gum arabic and powdered borax. With this mixture the design is traced on china, etc., and baked in a hot oven. The gum is then burnt and the borax vitrified, and at the same time the gold is fixed on the china.

Diamonds having a yellow hue are said to be rendered colorless by being dipped into a solution of the aniline violet well-known as mauve, violet de Paris, methyl violet, etc. A thin coat remains on the stone, and as violet is the complementary color of yellow, the diamond appears perfectly white or slightly bluish, which renders it still more valuable.

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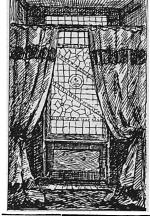
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Send diagram of window, giving exact size of pane of glass showing between the wood and the thickness of sash bars. Responsible and Energetic Agents wanted outside of New York City.

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HINTS AND NOTIONS.

In filling up cracks and breaks in walls, painters experience a great annoyance from the rapidity with which the ordinary plaster of paris and water "sets." A remedy will be found in using vinegar instead of water. Mix the same as if water was used, and the result will be very much like putty, and will remain plastic for about a half an hour, finally becoming perfectly hard.

Liquid glue-4 ounces hard glue, 16 ounces acetic acid; dissolve by soaking and heating. Spaulding's glue is supposed to be ordinary glue dissolved in good, strong vinegar. Another way is to add a little pyroligneous acid to-a thick solution of glue and water.

A flower pot is the subject of a patent. It is so constructed that a quantity of water will be retained in the lower part of the pot and at same time air will have access to and can circulate around the roots of the plant, thereby promoting rapid growth.

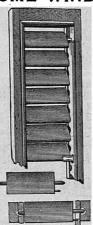
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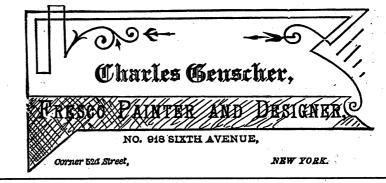
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HINTS AND NOTIONS.

To clean pictures. Wash with a sponge or a soft leather and water, and dry by rubbing with a silk handkerchief. When the picture is very dirty, take it out of its frame, procure a clean towel, and making it quite wet, lay it on the face of the picture, sprinkling it from time to time with clear soft water. Let it remain wet for two or three days; take the cloth off and renew it with a fresh one; after wiping the picture with a clean wet sponge. repeat the process till all the dirt is soaked out; then wash it well with a soft sponge, and let it quite dry; rub it with some clear nut or linseed oil. Spirits of wine and turpentine may be used to dissolve the hard old varnish, but they will attack the paint as well as the varnish if the further action of the spirits is not stopped at the proper time by using water freely.

A favorite improvement to the countryhouse of the period is a good windmill. It is picturesque and useful, and with docility and industry, works uncomplainingly night and day, furnishing water for domestic conveniences, fountains, lawns, flower gardens, stables, etc. A zephyr stirs it, and it defies the storm, and never gets out of order if occasionally dosed with oil. Some windmills blow themselves to pieces at every puff of wind. That is not the kind we mean.

The invention of a bed having appliances for the improved care of an invalid will prove a boon in many households. In addition to its ordinary use as a first-class bed, it has ingenious mechanical devices whereby a patient can be placed in any position without touching the body. It is a bed for health and sickness, and, we should think, a good article to have in the house

Fireplace decoration for the summer months, when fires are never thought of, may consist of growing plants, moss, ferns, etc.

Colored glass globes to hang beneath the hall lamp, soften the light and have a pretty

Colors for stained glass windows are old gold, ruby and green. These, at least, are more popular than others.

A sombre room can be made charming by expending a little time and thought upon it.

The Continent for May JUST OUT.

FRONTISPIECE.—Portrait of General Joseph R. Hawley, U. S. Senator, engraved by Thomas Johnson from a photograph by Brady.

JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.—A well considered esti-mate of the character and career of a leading candidate for distinguished honor in the Presi-dential campaign.

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"The classical pictures by Will H. Low promise
to be a delightful feature of 'Dorcas'; indeed,
the artist who caught the expression of troubled thought in the young girl's face might
feel satisfied with that for a season's work."

Critic.

ILLUSTRATED POEMS.—"The Lamp of St. Just,"
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A. F. Browne, etc.

THE THREE CROWNS.—A Poem. By "Orpheus C. Kerr."

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.—A Study. By Joel Benton.
A. W. TOURGEE on "National Education" and Current Topics.

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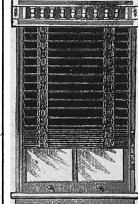
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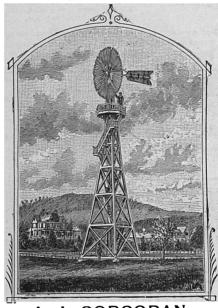
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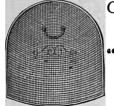
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HINTS AND NOTIONS. -*

For japaning small iron goods, the japan may be put on with a brush, generally two coats. If the goods are of a kind that will bear dipping, you may thin the japan with a little turpentine. You will have to make a few experiments to find just how much to thin the particular kind of japan that you are using. The goods should be heated upon a plate of iron over the oven stove to a little above the temperature of boiling water, then dipped into the japan quickly and out, either with a hook or on small wires, then drained for a moment and hung in the oven. The oven should be raised to a temperature of 250 degrees Fahr. Great caution should be used with an oven heated by a stove. Nothing but the pipe or such part of the stove as will not communicate fire to the vapor of the japan should be exposed in the chamber. The air that feeds the fire should not under any circumstances be taken from the drying chamber. A steam coil is the best if you can use steam at 60 pounds pressure, as that pressure is necessary to produce the desired temperature.

A combination wardrobe.—A wash-hand stand occupies the right hand corner with useful drawer under the marble top, a chamber cupboard and a curtained recess below. Three shelves are arranged over the table top, and the lower one in the angle is intended for the sponge. The central space is utilized as a hanging cupboard, with a large silvered glass mirror in the panel of the door. To the left a clothes press extends the rest of the width, over a useful recess for books and bottles. Then comes a table top, with three drawers below, and under these is another cupboard for hats, bonnets, boots, or slippers. The whole stands on a heavy plinth.—Scientific

Richness of a floor covering is especially desirable, for all carpets of a "washed out," dull, or faded appearance are the reverse of satisfactory.

Hangings, wall decorations, furniture, and ornamental additions in an apartment may be soft in tint and delicately manipulated, but a carpet must be full, rich, and deep.

Granulated cork is a non-conductor of heat and a deadener of sound. It might be used in walls and floors.

To paint one article without any reference to its surroundings is in the worst possible

An enamel formed of asbestos is used to cover pipes, put on walls, etc., and serves to protect them.

Screens of leather or covered with Lincrusta-Walton make very pretty pieces of furniture for a dining room.

Coal oil stains may be removed from a carpet by sopping it with ether, naphtha or

Mirrors are now often hung with curtains caught back in the old way as if draping a window.

The woodwork and walls of a room should agree in coloring.

Matting may be cleaned with hot water and salt. A thin coat of varnish improves it.

Square tea tables painted bright red are novelties. Tapestry decoration is becoming more

popular constantly. Glass napkin rings are made.

Toilet mirrors are framed with plush.

Ruby amber glass is a recent innovation.

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HINTS AND NOTIONS.

Paper bottles are now made on a large scale in Germany and Austria. The paper must be well sized. The following is said to be a good receipt for the paper: Ten parts of rags, forty of straw, fifty of brown wood pulp. The paper is impregnated or coated on both sides with sixty parts of defibrinated fresh blood, thirty-five parts of lime powder, five parts sulphate of alumina. After drying, ten or twelve rolled leaves are coated again, placed over each other, and then placed in heated moulds. The albumen in the blood forms a combination on pressure with the lime which is perfectly proof against spirits, etc. The bottles are made in two pieces, which are joined afterwards.

A step ladder, or more properly two ordinary ladders attached, covered poles and rungs with pearl gray plush, and draped at the top with mauve plush in the form of curtains, and having on either side at unequal heights, a shelf supported on the rungs and also plush covered, may be made a very pretty parlor ornament. From between the ladders suspend a bucket containing flowers and plants; upon the shelves spoken of are stood pictures, and pictures also are attached to the rungs.

A surface, hard, smooth, glossy and black, may be obtained on wooden panels for decorative purposes by the following: Dissolve gum shellac in alcohol and add enough powdered ivory black or drop ivory to give it the consistency to apply with a brush. Put on three or more coats, rub down with rottenstone and a woolen cloth when dry, and varnish with thin coach varnish.

Steel articles may be blued in the following manner. Make a box of sheet iron, fill it with sand, and subject it to a steady heat. The articles to be blued must be finished and well polished. Immerse the articles in the sand, watching them until they are of the right color, when they should be taken out and immersed in oil.

A picture exhibiter has been patented. It is a casing with a series of swinging doors, with recesses in the inner sides, in each of which picture holding frames are hinged, and with a central standard on which frames are hung, with a mechanism for opening or closing the doors.

Living pictures are being exhibited at the Brighton Aquarium, London. A picturesque background is painted and the living figures are arranged in front of it, representing the grouping of some more or less well known picture.

Chameleon glass, whose nature may be judged from the name, is a new English decoration.

M. Baudry is to decorate a ceiling and arches of the New Hotel de Ville, at Paris, at an expense of \$33,000.

White clothes may be whitened in washing by boiling a teaspoonful of turpentine with them.

Scarfs have replaced lambrequins to a considerable extent

The beveled edges of mirrors are orna-

Lincrusta-Walton is used for table mats.



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FRINK'S Patent Reflectors give the Most Powerful, the Softest.
Cheapust and the Best Light known for Churches, Stores, Show Windows,
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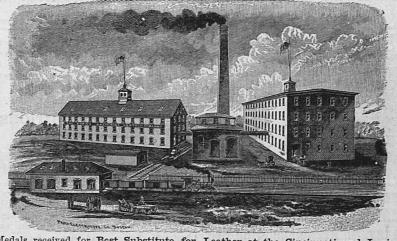
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Fig. 1.—Represents the Bed arranged for treatment of a fractured leg. One limb can be placed in any position, and maintained there while the sound limb is left free; or in double accidents or heumatism, both can be placed in the immovable apparatus shown, and can be raised, lowered or moved to either side.



Fig. 2.—Illustrates the method of cleansing with out disturbing the invalid.



Fig. 3.—Represents how a person can be turned on either side, without handling the body and without pain. In Obstetrical Practice the Bed will be found productive of great comfort to the parturient, and convenience to the attendants.



Fig. 4.—Shows how the invalid is lifted and suspended in the free air. This is invaluable in periods of great heat, and also to allow of changing the bedding, etc.

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The Publisher will furnish the name and address of the maker of goods mentioned in this column. In order to avoid the appearance of advertisements, no name will be attached to notices herein.

HINTS AND NOTIONS.

The arrangement of trophies and the fitting up of heraldic rooms is a most attractive method of indoor decoration, and as much admired by ladies as by gentlemen. The straight-backed hall benches of the sixteenth century, with a shelf on the top, are especially suitable for the purpose. Ancient swords, halberds, lances, and spears form a background, with a crested shield in the centre, and in front should be placed hunting or racing cups, interspersed with palms or other leaf plants. Suits of armor flank the bench, in front of which may be placed an old fashioned table, with a linen cover worked in cross stitch. The wall decoration can be continued by old tapestries, cabinets in Gothic or Renaissance style; ancient weapons of smaller size, like daggers, fixed against the wainscot; and chairs, carved or embroidered with heraldic devices.

Leather-headed nails made of solid and substantial leather with a sharpened tongue for driving in the wood, are widely used for chair, sofa, and other furniture decoration. The leather heads of these nails are colored various colors, bronzed, silvered, and plushed, so that they may be used not alone on furniture, but on portières, curtains, heavy hangings, etc. These nails when artistically arranged on the curtain have a very pretty effect and add very largely to the attractiveness of the material.

A pretty border for a table cover may be made of stamped out Chinese figures worked on black cloth, with a few quaint Chinese trees, houses, palings and the like added in old gold silk. Pictures that strike the fancy as desirable for working may be cut from the paper in which they are printed, and with a penknife cut a narrow slit about the windows, doors, and other important outlines. Lay the pictures upon the cloth and mark through the slits with china white.

Baskets and work cases may be made of plaited paper, white, brown, or newspaper. Thin cartridge paper cut into narrow strips three quarters of an inch wide, and each strip doubled lengthwise into two can be plaited as straw and chip is done. These plaited strips may then be stitched together in the shape of basket or jar, etc. When finished a couple of coats of gelatine and varnished improve them greatly.

A new form of decorating pottery, plaques, etc., is introduced. It consists of a relief picture in monochrome but with the shadows sharply and nicely marked. The process is that of photography.

German gray and blue ware and Dutch crockery, is seen on the sideboards of fashionable dining-rooms, and is considered quite the thing now.

A rubber cushion under the legs of a work-bench will deaden the sound of hammering so completely that it will not disturb the inmates of adjoining rooms.

Leather chair seats may be brightened and revived by rubbing with the white of an egg. Leather book binding will also be improved by this treatment.

A dado of paneled wood may be decorated by every other panel being painted with some appropriate flower—a flower with a long stem, the bulrush, lily, iris, cat tail, etc.

Small screens, two or three leaved, made of olive wood and plush, are pretty to hold photographs.

Bookcases have very properly been shorn of doors and curtains of plush or silk substituted.

Ink stains on a table cloth may be removed if milk is applied the moment the ink is spilt and the spot afterwards washed.

Black cherry wood is suggested as a desirable one for furniture.

Ha! ha! is the name of the new Parisian tint.

Carved dining-room chairs are fashionable.

Bolting cloth makes neat curtains.



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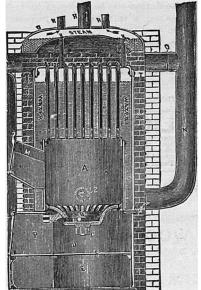
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